

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 17458 022150Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OES-07 NASA-01 CIAE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 L-03 /031 W  
-----037330 030453Z /12  
R 021132Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5188

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 17458

DEPT PASS NASA TERRELL

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TSPA, UR, US  
SUBJECT: US-USSR SPACE AGREEMENT: LUNAR SCIENCE (04.03)

REF: (A) STATE 285854, (B) MOSCOW 17179, (C) STATE 282364,  
(D) STATE 279017

1. FOLLOWING IS REPLAY OF EVENTS ON SURKOV AND BARSUKOV TRAVEL. ON NOVEMBER 25 THEY WERE ISSUED US VISAS, VALID FOR ENTRY AFTER DECEMBER 1. FRIDAY EVENING NOVEMBER 25 A REPRESENTATIVE OF BARSUKOV'S GEOCHEMICAL INSTITUTE TELEPHONED SCICOUNS, NOTING THAT BARSUKOV'S AND SURKOV'S VISAS WOULD NOT ALLOW THEM TO REACH US UNTIL CONFERENCE HAD ALREADY BEGUN. SHE SAID BARSUKOV AND SURKOV HAD BEEN IN DIRECT TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS. SHE ALSO NOTED THAT BARSUKOV AND SURKOV HAD RESERVATIONS ON FLIGHT LEAVING MOSCOW NOVEMBER 27 AND POINTED OUT THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO CHANGE RESERVATIONS AT THIS LATE DATE. ON SATURDAY NOVEMBER 26 BARSUKOV'S AND SURKOV'S VISAS WERE AMENDED TO ALLOW ENTRY ANYTIME IN NOVEMBER. AS REF B INDICATED, REF C ARRIVED SHORTLY AFTER THEIR VISAS HAD BEEN AMENDED.  
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IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT OF REF C EMBOFF ATTEMPTED WITHOUT SUCCESS TO CONTACT BARSUKOV DIRECTLY. MFA COUFLAR ADMINISTRATION REP WAS ABLE TO CONTACT BARSUKOV AND CLAIMED THAT SOVIETS HAD ARRANGED NOVEMBER 27 ARRIVAL THROUGH TELEPHONE CALL WITH US HOST IN HOUSTON. AT THIS POINT, IT APPEARED BETTER TO INFORM DEPT. AND NASA THAT BARSUKOV AND SURKOV

WOULD ARRIVE EARLY (REF B), RATHER THAN ATTEMPT  
TO HAVE THEM HELD AT US BORDER.

2. FYI. PARA 3 (REF D) WAS NOT COMMUNICATED TO  
BARSUKOV AND SURKOV WHO DID NOT PICK UP VISAS  
IN PERSON AND, IN ANY EVENT, COULD NOT BE REACHED  
DURING NOVEMBER 26 WEEKEND. THE RECORD OF THE  
BARSUKOV/SURKOV VISIT POINTS OUT  
DESIRABILITY OF ARRANGING ALL VISITS UNDER US-USSR  
SPACE AGREEMENT THROUGH OFFICIAL CHANNELS RATHER  
THAN BY MEANS OF DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN INDIVIDUAL  
SCIENTISTS.  
TOON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
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